

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.		25X1
TOPIC	1. School for Security Troops at <u>Kuncice</u> Castle.			25X1
	2. Troops and Military Installations in and near Ostrava.			
EVALUATION		PLACE OBTAINED		25X1
DATE OF CONTENT			640281	25X1
DATE OBTAINED		DATE PREPARED	16 June 1954	
REFERENCES				
PAGES	2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)		
REMARKS				

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1. Prior to early March 1954, the former castle on the northwestern perimeter of Kuncice (P 50/O 58) quartered a school for security troops. In the fall of 1952, a board inscribed "Vnitřní Stráž" (Interior Guard) was observed at the entrance to the castle park. In the spring of 1954, source saw soldiers on duty who wore standard Czech Army uniforms with red service color, while dark-blue dress uniforms with dark-blue visor-type service caps were worn on leave. The number of soldiers quartered in the installation prior to March 1954, was estimated at no less than 100 men. The age of the trainees differed, however, most of them were young men. Source frequently observed the trainees doing gymnastics in the castle area. It was only occasionally that they received infantry combat training with rifles in the area around the installation. Source believed that theoretical instruction was mostly given. At intervals, the trainees were apparently replaced by other soldiers. In the spring of 1953, when the currency reform was effected, the troops once left the installation on three or four trucks, which carried one field kitchen and proceeded toward Ostrava (P 50/O 59). They returned to their billets after some days. 1

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2. About June 1953, source observed the billets of an officer school, and, not far south of them, a cantonment, on the west side of the Zábřeh nad Odrou (P 50/O 58) - Stara Bela (P 50/O 58) road, in the wooded area south of Ostrava. The officer school consisted of one low quartering building, about 300 meters south of the southernmost houses of the town of Zábřeh. Source constantly observed young soldiers wearing very clean Czech Army uniforms with varying numbers of stripes on their sleeves. these men were officer candidates of the army whose branch of service was unidentified. About 30 old and fairly small wooden huts with only limited military activity around them were observed in the area of the cantonment, about 200 meters square, which bordered on the school to the south. Some trucks were usually observed at the installation. The sentries at the gates wore standard uniforms. Source believed that a military ration supply depot was located in this area. 2

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3. Prior to the summer of 1953, the former "Don Bosko" Convent at the intersection of the south side of Salesianska and the west side of Vitkovicka in Strava quartered Czech soldiers. Activity at this installation was rather light. No weapons or vehicles were observed at the site, nor did source recollect that he had seen troops in closed formation at the installation. 2

4. Prior to July 1953, source observed the vaulted entrances to two galleries driven into the slope on the eastern bank of the Ostravice River in the northern sector of Ostrava. In the summer of 1953, the two entrances were still boarded up while a concrete-mixing machine was in operation at the southern entrance. The northern gallery was located 300 to 400 meters south of the intersection of Bohuminska and Muglinovska streets, about 10 meters distant from Bohuminska street. 3  
The work at the galleries was done by civilians.

1. Comment. The castle apparently housed a political officer school of the Interior Guard.

2. Comment. Available information indicates that these installations quarter infantrymen. It is believed that the cantonment north of Stara Polka is identical to the motor-vehicle repair shop observed prior to September 1953. This shop sells worn-out vehicles to civilian agencies.

3. Comment. The purpose of these galleries is undetermined.

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